

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Essex Senatorial District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.*

### **Residents of First Essex Senatorial District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.5% (1,881) of these admissions reside in the First Essex Senatorial District. 4.5% (84) of admissions from the First Essex Senatorial District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from First Essex Senatorial District reported the following characteristics:

- 72% were male and 28% were female.
- 56% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 85% were white non-Latino, 2% were black non-Latino, 11% were Latino, and 2% were other racial categories.
- 62% were never married, 14% were married, and 24% reported not to be married now.
- 30% had less than high school education, 50% completed high school, and 19% had more than high school education.
- 35% were employed.
- 7% were homeless.
- 34% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Essex Senatorial District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
<b>District</b>	44%	37%	10%	3%	1%
<b>State</b>	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Abuse: FY 1995 – FY 2002</b>							
<b>First Essex Senatorial District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	1,809	1,388	536	507	385	542	394
<b>FY '96</b>	1,803	1,410	542	450	358	579	414
<b>FY '97</b>	1,795	1,332	515	369	275	608	465
<b>FY '98</b>	1,719	1,251	508	361	229	643	487
<b>FY '99</b>	1,841	1,303	548	476	311	786	601
<b>FY '00</b>	2,067	1,477	593	464	320	802	598
<b>FY '01</b>	2,007	1,438	563	398	196	705	495
<b>FY '02</b>	1,881	1,304	519	346	156	762	535

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the First Essex Senatorial District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

